



The Bishop's Stortford High School

MODERN FOREIGN LANGUAGES and LATIN

There are currently four full-time and two part-time members of the Department, offering French and German, with the ability to teach at least one language to A-Level. All members of the Department are well-qualified in the teaching of their subject. The Head of MFL has overall responsibility for teaching and learning at KS4 and KS5 in both languages, and the Second in MFL has responsibility for teaching and learning at KS3.

The Department is situated in a suite of rooms comprising five large classrooms plus one smaller room. Each of the five larger rooms is equipped with whiteboards and speakers. We are also very pleased to have the services of full-time French and German Language Assistants. They are of enormous value in providing regular conversation practice for pupils and staff alike.

Currently, all pupils in Year 7 study both French and German following LDP (Language-Driven Pedagogy) schemes of learning, choosing one language in which to specialise at the end of the year. Pupils in Year 8 have 5 lessons per fortnight of their chosen language, which continue until Year 11. We have a significant number of committed pupils in Years 8 and 9, who continue with their second language in lunchtime and after-school lessons respectively. LDP materials are used at KS3, as well as Studio for AQA French and Stimmt for AQA German respectively.

Pupils continue with at least one modern foreign language to GCSE, and we have a small number of enthusiastic dual linguists. Latin is offered to our more academic pupils from Year 10. In French and German, pupils are prepared for the AQA syllabus. Pupils in Latin take the OCR GCSE.

French and German are popular choices at A Level, where the Edexcel syllabus is studied. Our students are encouraged to participate in a wide range of extra-curricular activities, including debating at school and competition level, cinema and theatre visits, lectures, and intensive language courses. Exchanges and trips abroad at all Key Stages are an important feature of our work and participation by all staff is much appreciated. We are looking to increase the trips we offer, in particular post-16, in order to give our students the international experience integral to the study of a foreign language.

In the department, we aim to provide a sense of achievement and enjoyment for all pupils, but we also emphasise the need for intellectual stimulation and academic rigour. Consequently, we introduce setting from the beginning of Year 7. This allows our most able pupils to gain a good understanding of the structure of the language, and our least able pupils the chance to progress at a speed which better suits their needs.

Our overriding principle is to allow each pupil to achieve their full potential, and staff are encouraged to adapt their style to suit the varying needs of their students. We expect lessons to feature a variety of creative and engaging activities.

GCSE Results 2022

	Entries	% Grades 7+	% Grades 4+
French	44	41	89
German	113	23	88

GCSE Results 2023

	Entries	% Grades 7+	% Grades 4+
French	27	48	89
German	131	27	89

A Level Results 2022

	Entries	% Grades A*-B	% Grades A*-C
French	6	100	100
German	11	91	100

A Level Results 2023

	Entries	% Grades A*-B	% Grades A*-C
French	4	50	100
German	2	100	100